

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

DIANNE BATTLE, 2425 Shades Crest Road, Birmingham, Alabama, was interviewed in the office of CHARLES T. SMITH, Auditor, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Birmingham, Alabama. Miss BATTLE furnished the following information:

She advised she was a former employee of the Birmingham Trust National Bank (BTNB), having resigned from the bank on January 17, 1968. She advised that while employed at the bank she worked in the Safe Deposit Box Section and was so employed in this section during August and September, 1967. She advised that her immediate supervisor was Mrs. CATHERINE REEDY and that she and Mrs. REEDY were the only employees in this section during the time she was employed with BTNB.

Miss BATTLE then furnished the following information concerning safe deposit box #5517, rented in the name of ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue South.

Miss BATTLE reviewed a contract executed by GALT dated August 28, 1967, the date GALT rented the box from BTNB, and advised that she did not open this account; that the only person who would have opened the account would have been Mrs. REEDY.

Miss BATTLE advised that when a customer enters a safe deposit box, the time the customer enters the box and the time the customer leaves the box will be stamped and the date the person entered will also appear on the Record of Access to the customer's safe deposit box. She further stated that the customer will place his signature on the Record of Access each time the customer enters the box. In addition, either she or Mrs. REEDY, depending on who assisted the customer in going to the box, will place their initials by the signature of the customer.

After examining the Record of Access to safe deposit box #5517, Miss BATTLE advised that the records show

On 4/10/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1246-1018  
SA ROBERT J. YAPNALL and ME 44-1246  
 by SA HENRY A. SNOW / RJY:hsc Date dictated 4/15/68

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GALT entered the box on four different occasions and that on three occasions she had assisted GALT in going to the box, since her initials appeared by his signature. She stated the records show that GALT had entered the box on the following dates and times as set forth below:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u>              |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 8/28/67     | 2:32 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.   |
| 9/9/67      | 1:52 p.m. to 1:56 p.m.   |
| 9/21/67     | 11:04 a.m. to 11:08 a.m. |
| 9/28/67     | 10:16 a.m. to 10:19 a.m. |

Miss BATTLE advised that on August 28, 1967, September 5 and 21, 1967, she assisted GALT in going to the box and that on August 28, 1967, Mrs. REEDY assisted GALT in going to the box.

Miss BATTLE advised that she does recall ERIC S. GALT and that to the best of her knowledge he was friendly on each occasion although he was quiet and said very little to her. She stated that one reason she recalls GALT is the fact that when most customers go to their safe deposit box they will take the box to one of the booths located in the Safe Deposit Section and will stay there for ten minutes or longer; however, on each occasion that GALT came to the box he stayed only a few minutes and did not go to any booth. She stated she also recalls that on each occasion he came in he would tell her that she could stay with him since he would only be there a few minutes. She stated, however, that she did not stay with GALT and would return to her desk. Miss BATTLE stated she never observed GALT putting anything in or taking anything out of the box and she never recalls seeing him carrying anything into the safe deposit box section other than one time she does recall he had a small paper bag in his hand.

Miss BATTLE stated that on each occasion GALT came to the bank he was dressed in casual clothes and she did not notice anything unusual about him. She added that on each occasion he came to the bank he was alone and she

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reiterated that he was a very quiet individual and said very little to her, and he never attempted to strike up any conversation with her. Miss BATTLE advised that on December 13, 1967, GALT sent a letter to the bank enclosing the keys to the safe deposit box, wherein he advised the bank that he was now living out of Birmingham and was surrendering his safe deposit box. She advised she made a notation to this effect on the Record of Access to GALT's safe deposit box and that she also put on there that he lives in Baton Rouge. Miss BATTLE advised she does not recall anything specific in the letter indicating that GALT was residing at Baton Rouge, and that she believes she obtained this information from the postmark on the envelope in which the letter was received. She advised that this envelope has been destroyed; however, to the best of her knowledge a copy of the letter would be maintained in GALT's file maintained in the Safe Deposit Box Section.

Miss BATTLE described GALT as follows:

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Race:            | White                                |
| Sex:             | Male                                 |
| Age:             | Late 20's or early 30's              |
| Height:          | 5'11"                                |
| Weight:          | 170 lbs.                             |
| Hair:            | Brown; cut short                     |
| Eyes:            | Believed blue; did not wear glasses. |
| Complexion:      | Ruddy                                |
| Characteristics: | Very polite, friendly and quiet.     |